

Amendments to the Specification:

1. Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 1, which starts with "The destination messaging . . .", with the following amended paragraph:

The destination messaging server 14 comprises a processor or other network server. In one embodiment, messaging server 14 operates pursuant to one or more of SMTP, POP3, [[INAP4]] IMAP4 and/or other protocols. In alternative embodiments, messaging server 14 operates pursuant to different ~~or yet to be developed~~ protocols. Pursuant to the protocols, messaging server 14 receives the message and makes the message available to a recipient or [[use]] user. For example, the recipient has access to or logs on to messaging server 14 and may read, forward, reply or perform other messaging functions.

2. Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 19, which starts with "Messaging server 18 comprises. . .", with the following amended paragraph:

Messaging server 18 comprises a network server or processor for message processing. In one embodiment, messaging server 18 operates pursuant to one or more of SMTP, POP3, [[INAP4]] IMAP4, and/or other protocols. In alternative embodiments different ~~or yet to be developed~~ protocols are used. Messaging server 18 may operate pursuant to the same or different protocols than messaging server 14. Messaging server 18 operatively connects to relay server 16.

3. Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 20, which starts with "If server 14 is . . . ", with the following amended paragraph:

If server 14 is still inoperable at step 34, the process moves to step 36 where relay server ~~[[14]]~~ 16 determines the amount of time or number of attempts that re-routing the message to messaging server 14 has been performed. If a threshold amount of time or number of attempts has not been exceeded, relay server 16 continues to re-route the message to messaging server 14 at step 32. If the threshold time or number of attempts has been surpassed, the process proceeds to step 38.

4. Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 7, which starts with "Transfer servers 72 provide. . .", with the following amended paragraph:

Transfer servers 72 provide for the transfer of messages between isolated network 52 and Internet 50. Transfer servers 72 are provided for security so that isolated network 52 is maintained separate from components of data centers 54 and 56 associated with Internet 50. Messages destined for Internet 50 created by a user of isolated network 52 are provided to ~~Intranet~~ intranet mail server 68. Likewise, messages from Internet 50 destined for users of isolated network 52 are provided to ~~intranet~~ Internet servers 66. Internet and intranet mail servers 66 and 68 store these messages prior to transfer. Transfer services automatically or periodically pick up, copy or otherwise indicate that the messages may be passed through routers 62 to the appropriate destination. For example, transfer servers 72 copy messages from Internet server 66 to intranet servers 68 and vice versa. Copying may be performed at the same time or at different times. In one embodiment, this process is performed at a predetermined time interval, such as every 30 seconds. Other time periods may be used. In alternative embodiments, transfer

servers 72 designate messages stored in NFS server 74 for transfer between Internet and intranet mail servers 66 and 68.